

## Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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R 120310Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1256

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

USUN NEW YORK 611

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 5465

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MY, BX, UK

SUBJ: OFFICIAL MALAYSIAN STATEMENT ON BRUNEI

REF: A. KUALA LUMPUR 5432; B. KUALA LUMPUR 5302 (NOTAL)

1. KUALA LUMPUR "NEW STRAITS TIMES" SEPT 11 CARRIED LONDON STORY ON STATEMENT MADE BEFORE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION BY THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COORDINATION OF PUBLIC CORPORATIONS, DATUK MOHAMMED RAHMAT. RAHMAT, IDENTIFIED AS DEPUTY LEADER OF THE MALAYSIAN DELEGATION, IS QUOTED AS TELLING A MEETING CALLED TO DISCUSS INDEPENDENCE FOR COLONIAL COUNTRIES THAT THE GOM SUPPORTED THE PETITION OF THE PARTAI RAKYAT BRUNEI (PRB) TO THE UN COMMITTEE OF 24 REQUESTING "INDEPENDENCE" FOR BRUNEI. HE REPORTEDLY NOTED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF 24 HAD ADOPTED A CONSENSUS STATEMENT SUPPORTING PRB'S CASE AND HAD ENDORSED ITS REQUEST FOR TRIPARTITE TALKS BETWEEN THE UK, BRUNEI'S SULTAN, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PEOPLE (I.E. THE PRB).

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"IT IS OBVIOUS THAT OUR CONTENTION THAT BRUNEI IS STILL A

BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORY IS FULLY SHARED BY THE UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF 24" RAHMAT IS QUOTED AS SAYING. HE ALSO REPORTEDLY HOPED THAT HMG WOULD IMPLEMENT THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION WITHOUT DELAY. OTHER REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO RAHMAT TO EFFECT LAST REMNANTS OF COLONIALISM "MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN QUIETLY IN EXISTENCE" DIRECTLY ECHO SPEECH MADE BY FOREIGN MINISTER RITHAUDDEEN TO LIMA NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE.

2. THE GOM HAS NOW COME OUT IN THE OPEN IN ITS SUPPORT FOR THE PRB EXILES, BUT IT IS NOT AT ALL CLEAR IF THE MALAYSIAN SCENARIO FOR BRUNEI COINCIDES WITH THAT OF PRB PRESIDENT A.M. AZAHARI AND HIS ASSOCIATES. IN LATE 1973, TUN RAZAK INDICATED TO AMBASSADOR LYDMAN THAT HE ASSUMED THAT BRUNEI WOULD JOIN THE MALAYSIAN FEDERATION IN DUE COURSE. IF THE PRESENT PRESSURE CAMPAIGN SUCCEEDS, AND THE BRITISH WITHDRAW LEAVING THE PRB TO COME TO TERMS WITH THE SULTAN AND HIS FATHER, THEN THE EXILES MAY END UP BACK IN THE PARLIAMENT IN BANDAR SRI BEGAWAN, WHICH HAS BEEN SHUT SINCE THEIR REVOLT IN DECEMBER 1962. THE PRB, HOWEVER, IS NOT LIKELY TO WISH TO DILUTE ITS POWER BY GIVING UP BRUNEI'S SOVEREIGNTY TO THE FEDERATION NOR IS THIS LIKELY BE SUPPORTED BY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE BRUNEIAN ELITE WHO HAVE NO GREAT LOVE FOR PENINSULAR MALAYS AND WHOSE ONLY COMPLAINT IS THAT THE ROYAL BRUNEI GOVT WILL NOT SHARE ENOUGH OF ITS POLITICAL POWER WITH THEM. WE HAVE NOT HAD CHANCE TO SEE BRITISH TODAY BUT WILL DO SO SHORTLY AND ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE WHAT THEY THINK THE GOM REALLY WANTS.  
UNDERHILL

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**To:** STATE  
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